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MONTHLY

BOOK



The Beatles Book

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

No. 61, AUG. 1968

EDITORIAL

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Leslie Bryce, Mal Evans
and Tony Bramwell*

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Hi!

For once the critics are in complete agreement; The Beatles' Yellow Submarine cartoon film is a great big SMASH! A fact that will warm the hearts of Beatle people all over the world. Not that they need the support of a few show business experts of course; but it is nice to have it there . . . in print. The film certainly deserves all the praise it's received. I enjoyed every single second of the premier.

But, while we're talking about praise, let's not forget all the very talented people who helped to put it together. And there is one name I'd like to mention—sombdy you all know very well—George Martin. I've singled him out because he's the person who arranged all the Beatles' crochets and quavers into the sound track, which is, undoubtedly, one of the outstanding features of the film.

No summer holiday for the Beatles this year. I don't think they have ever worked so hard, except perhaps in those hectic months of 1963-64 when they never seemed to stop dashing from one performance to another. They have taken on a tremendous amount of work—not only are they spending hours in the recording studio (perhaps I should say studios, because this time they are using No. 3 at E.M.I., St. John's Wood whenever No. 2 is not available), but they are also running a very big showbusiness complex in Apple. Hardly a week passes without one Beatle or another dashing off for a high-level conference—very often on the other side of the Atlantic, too!

We received a tremendous flood of letters this month about John and Yoko. But, as always *The Beatles Book* regards this as part of John's private life. We have always avoided prying into the boys' lives once they have left the spotlight. From time to time, of course, they have invited myself and *The Beatles Book* photographer into their homes, and we have shown you pictures of Ringo with Maureen and Zak or Paul with Jane, George with Pattie and John with Cynthia and Julian, and John and Yoko. But, I don't think it's fair to either John or Cynthia to say anything about what is a very private affair between them. That's been our policy up to now and we are going to stick to it.

Johnny Dean Editor.

Every playback in the recording studio is a very important event for the Beatles. Here is Ringo listening to the finished version of their new single.





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AUGUST NEWSLETTER

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

During the last few weeks George Harrison has been supervising Apple recording sessions with Liverpudlian Jackie Lomax, once a member of the Undertakers and, more recently, a quarter of an Anglo-American foursome called the Lomax Alliance for whom Brian Epstein acted as manager a short time before his death. Jackie is signed to Apple Records as a solo artist. First Apple LP album is the one you've already read about in *The Beatles Monthly*—an intriguingly packaged soundtrack record from the film "Wonderwall" featuring George's music which he recorded with various groups of musicians in London and Bombay. And there is the August debut single from Mary Hopkin, who we've seen and heard so much of via Hughie Green's "Opportunity Knocks" TV show.

What's more, the Beatles' own new single will be coming out on the Apple label—their first since the switch from Parlophone to Apple—within the next couple of weeks. Also scheduled is the single upon which The Black Dyke Mills Band, the country's most famous brass band made up of 39 men whose ages range from around 16 to around 60, play Paul's "Thingumybob" TV theme and an entirely fresh arrangement of "Yellow Submarine". Paul went up to Bradford just a few Sundays ago to produce these two recordings.

BEATLE BITS: Art critics and other press types who attended the Mayfair opening of JOHN'S "To Yoko From John Lennon" art exhibition at the Robert Fraser Gallery were utterly astounded to be served with glasses of spring water instead of the usual tipping of champagne! John felt this was in keeping with the general joke theme of the whole affair! . . . PAUL'S massive MARTHA made a big hit with everyone when she accompanied the Beatle to Bradford for Paul's "Thingumybob" TV recording session with The Black Dyke Mills Band. In fact Martha's photograph got space in quite a few newspapers the next morning! . . . For a programme in the current American colour TV series "David Frost Presents . . .", produced and filmed in London, PAUL made a guest appearance in which he had an *ad lib* chat with Frankie Howerd before introducing his own Apple singing discovery, MARY HOPKIN. Sadly I have to tell you that there are no present plans for the series to be shown on British television. . . . Who was the Beautiful Beatle Person named JANET who had a giant apple-shaped birthday cake baked



George and Paul work on the backing for their new single in E.M.I.'s No. 3 studio.

for herself and her friends? A marvellous spherical affair coated in icing and green-tinted marzipan! . . . "Thingummybob", the new London Weekend TV series, starts August 2. . . . In the *News Of The World* showbiz writer Weston Taylor claimed he was revealing secret information to surprise Beatle People when he reported that the voices of actors had been used to speak dialogue lines for John, Paul, George and Ringo on the "Yellow Submarine" film soundtrack. The REAL surprise for Beatle People was that a national newspaper should be so late with its "news". *The Beatles Monthly Book* readers knew the facts nearly a month earlier via a news page story. AND they knew that neither the Beatles nor the "Yellow Submarine" film people had tried to make any secret of it.

FAN CLUB NOTES: SANDRA MORSE is the new Branch Secretary for the United States of America although the club's New York office address remains unchanged. . . . Congratulations to Austria Branch Secretary SYLVIA HONEDER upon her recent marriage. She is now Mrs. Sylvia Steiger. . . . New address for club branch in Brazil is: c/o ROBERTO NUNES, CAIXA POSTAL 3272, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL. . . . TINA GODOLPHIN, Area Sec. for South Wales, has had to resign that position for personal reasons. In future EIRWIN DAVIES, existing Area Sec. for North Wales, will be responsible for looking after all our Welsh Beatle People in North and South areas. . . . HELEN PICKERING, Northumberland Area Sec., and her friend Dorothy, spent a week's holiday in Liverpool and very kindly lent us many hours of their time helping with work at the Club Headquarters.

Before I sign off I must pass on to everyone Ringo's very sincere thanks for all the birthday cards, gifts and telegrams which reached him on his 28th birthday on July 7.

Tarrab for now,

Freda Kelly
FREDA KELLY

National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club

12.0

PED
XING

TOW-AWAY
NO PARKING
8 P.M. TO 2 A.M.

1 HOUR
PARKING
A.M. TO 6 P.M.

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RAN
4



WITH PAUL TO HOLLYWOOD

****Liverpoolian Tony Bramwell writes his first piece for The Beatles Book this month. Tony, who was with NEMS Enterprises throughout the past six years, is now a production man with Apple.*

PAUL was due to fly from London Airport to Los Angeles at two o'clock on Thursday afternoon, June 20. At one o'clock he invited me to go with him which meant delaying our flight until later in the day. We caught a 6 p.m. plane, got to New York seven hours later, switched flights and arrived in Los Angeles in the middle of the night. Third member of the party was Paul's old friend Ivan Vaughan, the guy who introduced him to John something like 12 years ago in Liverpool.

We went straight to the Beverly Hills Hotel where we shared a vast 3-bedroomed bungalow—one of a dozen dotted around the grounds of the hotel in amongst the palm trees and other luxurious Californian greenery.

On Friday morning, still tired but rarin' to go, we were picked up by Ron Kass (head of Apple Records) for a shopping spree down Sunset Strip. Bought a few jackets and some American sunglasses. A bit later we

showed the Capitol Records people the film we'd made of The Beatles in London, a short colour movie designed to promote Apple—and Apple Records in particular—to the salesmen and executives attending Capitol's big convention. This was the main reason for our trip because during the convention the big announcement was being made that Capitol would be distributing The Beatles' Apple Records in America.

SURPRISE

Other than the heads of Capitol, not a soul knew a Beatle was coming to Los Angeles so we didn't have any crowd problems to begin with. We were sitting in an ice cream parlour eating giant sundaes. Most of the customers did a sort of double-take but decided that it couldn't be Paul McCartney over in the corner because The Beatles were 6,000 miles away in London . . . weren't they?

Two little girls—I'd say they were 12 or 13—at the next table stared for a while, played it cool and

then paid their bill and left. A minute later they came tearing back for autographs screaming their heads off!

The convention was being held at a very modern new hotel, the Century Plaza, which has a fantastic set of fountains outside. I went over on Friday afternoon to hear the various speeches but Paul stayed back at the hotel because he was to be the Big Surprise. Eventually, as the convention drew to a close, came the special announcement from the stage and Paul was brought on. Imagine the reaction amongst the crowd of about 400 Capitol people when Paul just walked through from the back of the hall. Everyone went berserk and gave him a fine welcome. And the Apple promotion film was screened—showing The Beatles at work in the Apple offices in the recording studios and so forth. And it showed our great new girl discovery, songstress Mary Hopkin which was a great way of introducing her to all those important American record experts.

◀ *Apple's record boss, Ron Kass, pictured with Paul McCartney during their Hollywood trip.*

Saturday was quite hot with the temperature running between 90 and 100 degrees. All day we tried to urge ourselves away from the hotel pool to see the sights but we never did quite make it! Paul bought some orange swim trunks, I bought a movie camera and we let the hours go by beside the blue pool.

Being a busy executive Ron Kass had all his telephone calls put through to the poolside and PAUL HELPED HIM OUT BY TAKING ALL THE CALLS AND SCREENING THEM BEFORE PUTTING RON ON THE LINE! Paul put on one of his best voice disguises for this and it seems like most callers believed he was Ron's American assis-

tant! Mind you, 'one or two recognised his Mersey tones—including The Beach Boys.

On Saturday night we went to the home of Capitol's President for cocktails and then to the record company's barbecue in the open-air beside the Century Plaza fountains. Paul signed an autograph for just about EVERYBODY present!

PARTIES

We'd been invited to umpteen clubs and parties but it was impossible to take in the lot. The Byrds were playing at The Kaleidoscope, Judy Collins was at The Troubadour. Eventually we went to The Factory for dinner. It's a discotheque owned by Sammy Davis and various other Hollywood

celebrities. Very similar to the better London places but larger—in fact an old factory converted.

From there we went to the Whisky A Gogo to see the blues guitarist Albert King. To our amazement seated at the table next to us were Eric Burdon, Zoot Money, Georgie Fame and at least a dozen London clubbing regulars! We stayed until the end of Albert King's set and he came over to meet Paul and have a drink. Naturally word went round the club and all along the Sunset Strip that Paul was there. So by the time we came to leave the Whisky we needed police guards, club stewards, bouncers and all the extra help we could muster to get Paul through

BACK ISSUES

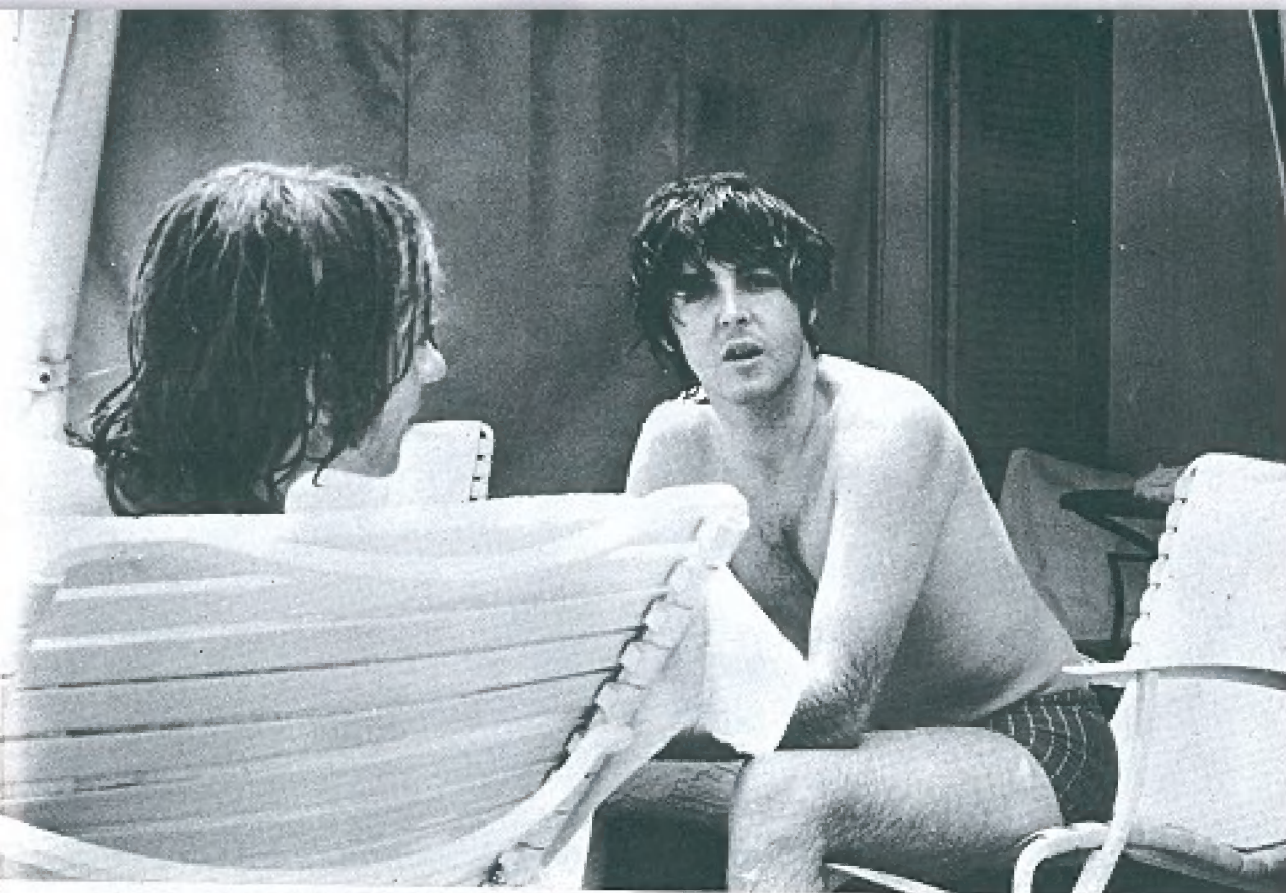
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ABOVE: It wasn't all business during his Hollywood trip. Here Paul relaxes after a dip.

BELOW: At least, he thought he'd got away from business until the 'phone rang.



the crowd and back into our limo.

Between three and nine we snatched six hours' sleep but on Sunday morning we couldn't have stayed in bed because we knew all sorts of interesting plans had been made for us. Ron Kass had arranged for us to go sailing on a luxurious 50-foot yacht belonging to his friends Bill and Betty Graham. We drove from Beverly Hills to the Marina del Rey—stopping along the way to buy some of those famous "Movie Star Homes Guide Map" things which sell in vast quantities to tourists. We had a quick tour round, gazing at homes which belonged or might once have belonged to famous folk ranging from Andy Williams to Gary Cooper. We got to the yacht at about lunchtime—and had BREAKFAST! With champagne rather than coffee!

BROKEN

The motor on the yacht had broken down so it was completely under sail. To get out of the harbour we had to use ropes, pulling from the opposite side of the dock. Then we spent six lazy well-fed hours just drifting up and down the Californian coast, sunbathing, movie-making and drying up all the champagne bottles.

On Sunday night we'd planned to get around to at least a few of the many parties at which we were half-expected. But the effects of that long 6,000-mile 14-hour flight from London were having their delayed action. So instead we just fell asleep at the hotel. At

around seven in the evening!

On Monday the ever-active Ron woke us up with Capitol people to say "Goodbye" to and photographers who were there to do their last pictures. A couple of hundred Beatle People, teenyboppers young and older, had gathered about the hotel by this time.

NEW SONGS

So Paul sang them a few songs. New ones which are going on the next album the boys are recording right now. So several hundred American fans were used to get first-hand reaction to some of The Beatles' very newest material. Imagine how they felt about THAT!

We got to the Los Angeles International Airport around noon but found our homeward flight had been delayed. So we waited in the TWA lounge and, while we were sitting there, the rumour started going round that there was a BOMB HIDDEN SOMEWHERE ON OUR AIRCRAFT!!! Indeed it became clear that the authorities were taking it seriously when we were asked if our luggage might be searched. We gladly gave our permission and bought some more insurance!

After nearly four hours the FBI people interviewed us, took names and addresses and asked if we knew any "30-year-old Caucasian who might put three phials of nitro-glycerine on board the plane"! To fill in time we went round the hot dog stall, lunch being long overdue. Inevitably here and in the airport gift shop Paul signed another hundred or

so autographs along the way. Still, the delay was worthwhile because we had time to buy gifts we'd forgotten all about. Ivan bought quite a few presents for his children—toy trains, tee shirts and so on.

Wish the visit could have been longer. By chance we'd bumped into no lesser person than Colonel Tom Parker outside our hotel on the Sunday night and he'd given Paul a little bundle of very precious tickets for Elvis' NBC colour television show due to be filmed the following weekend. And we'd have liked to see Tiny Tim who was doing concerts in Los Angeles when we were there.

FREAK

Tiny Tim is probably the biggest freak rave thingy on the American scene at the moment. You hear his life-story and his voice on every Top 40 pop station you tune to in California. And we missed a Ravi Shankar concert too. At other times Paul would have stayed for these three occasions but he had to be back for his "Thingummybob" recording session in Bradford with The Black Dyke Mills Band. So home we came, still very tired but feeling the trip had been more than worthwhile. So has this bit of story-telling and thank you for watching this space!

TONY BRAMWELL

● In the September issue MAL EVANS will catch up on The Beatles' recording news bringing you detailed and up-to-date information about all the group's July and August sessions in the studios.



ABOVE: Ron Kass talking to John on board the yacht during their Hudson River trip.

BELOW: And here is the whole party, who were on the yacht with John and Paul.



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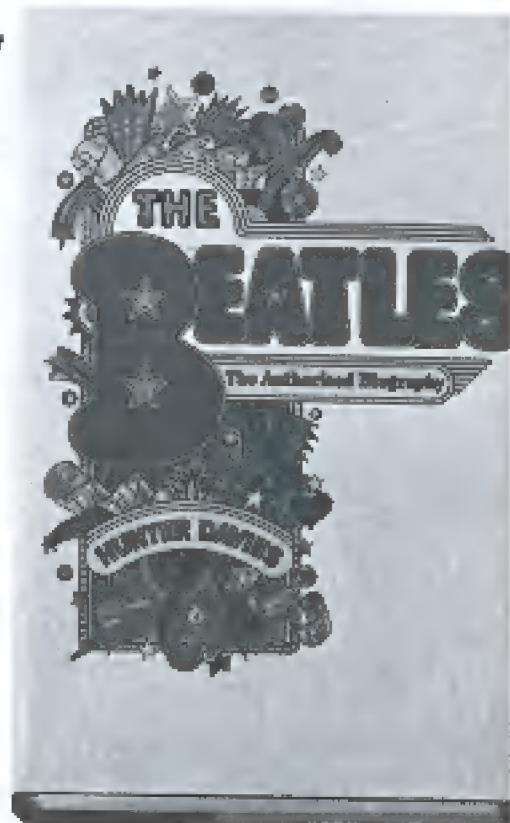


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LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear Mr. Dean,

Enclosed are five of the pictures of John and Paul which I took of them when they appeared on the Tonight Show here in May. It was quite an event—I was impressed anyway. After all, they didn't exactly let us know their estimated time of arrival. If you English knew they were going, we Americans certainly didn't know they were coming. (I believe the words I am groping for are "downright sneaky.") But come they did, and for the approximately 14 hours preceding THE show, we prepared ourselves to become calmly hysterical. Of course, it was none of the old madness for me. I only called an estimated 67½ people (½ equals a wrong number consisting of one terribly irritable and foul-mouthed man) to make sure no one missed it. Called TV repairman and put him on 24-hour standby alert. Cleaned TV screen three times. Dragged tape recorder out of closet and made everyone in the household sign vows that from 11:20 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. (air time) total silence would be observed. Loaded the camera and sat down directly in front of the TV. Nope . . . none of the old madness for me. Everything was under control. I checked the time. It was exactly 7:30 a.m.—only 13½ more hours to go. Anytime you're ready fellows so was I.

I must admit that by the time 11:30 came I felt a little stiff (numb, also). (When I go into detail I go into detail.) (Oh, brother.) Anyway, they brought out Tabulah Bankhead first. No comment. Then the band played a Lennon-McCartney medley and out they came! Wow! wow! and wow! *Cowabunga!!!!*

I remember being in total control clear up until the time when I came to. The smelling salts were awful, but appreciated. After they propped me up in a stable position (can you get rapture of the deep 350 miles above sea-level?). I took the pictures and then was completely won over (for about the two-thousandth time) by Paul and John. This was really the first time in America they really just sat and talked. It was great.

Of course, they have probably told you about the show, Johnny, so I won't keep you any longer. (I'm surprised you came this far.) But it's just so nice when the little book comes every month, it's like keeping in touch with old friends. So here's my contribution to you for a change.

Love,
Pam,
171 Victoria Avenue,
N.W., Canton,
Ohio, U.S.A., 44708.

Dear Johnny,

I read in the 59th *Beatles Book* your answer to Vanessa about the Beatles' first record, and I must say that it was not correct because the first record of the best group in the world was recorded in 1961, released by Polydor and contained the first Beatles' song written by John and George, "Cry For A Shadow", and the first vocal interpretation of John in "Ain't She Sweet".

It is true that Ringo was not in the group in 1961, but so (for instance) we should say that the Procol Harum's first record is "Homburg" because the group after "A White Shade Of Pale" transformed.

Yours sincerely,
Poppy Cipullo,
Via Del Cavcasso 79-00177,
Rome, Italy.

Johnny Dean Answers:

You're right, of course, Poppy. But, the boys ignore those early recordings, they weren't proper Beatles records were they?

Dear Johnny,

Having just arrived back from the U.S., I'd like to announce to all BEATLE fans just exactly what is going to hit the pop scene a few months from now. It's the MEDIEVAL craze! A lot of guys out there are rush-working on chucks, incense, harpsichords, candles, tapestries, etc. Catholic mysticism is to merge with Indian; and chanting and folk-sounds are going to explode into the charts. And I would like to drop a hint that GEORGE has a lot to do with it.

Hymns of love to everyone,
H. (of "the Archangel Gabriel"),
Chelsea.

Dear Mr. Dean,

While playing the Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper" LP the other day, I discovered something new.

I was listening to the final piano chord in "A Day In The Life" which lasts about 30 seconds, when I picked out the sounds of a rustle of paper, the creaking of a chair and someone saying "Sssh!" One has to listen to it very intently to hear it.

I wondered if perhaps there are any other *Beatles Book* readers who have noticed this.

Yours "Beatley",
Mick Knight,
61 Cowper Gardens,
Wallington,
Surrey.

Dear Beatle People,

I would like to buy the following old singles.

- (1) "Nobody I Know"—Peter and Gordon
- (2) "Hello Little Girl"—Fourmost
- (3) "I'm In Love"—Fourmost
- (4) "Like Dreamers Do"—Applejacks
- (5) "Tip Of My Tongue (?????)

Please contact me if anyone can help.

I know no one would want to sell their XMAS records, so if someone has the records before 1966 and can tape them for me I'd be very grateful.

Eddie Veltman,
339 Janet Drive,
Centralia, Illinois,
62801, U.S.A.

P.S.—Did Keith Richards, Mick Jagger, Gary Leeds and Graham Nash sing on "All You Need Is Love"?

Dearest John,

I sincerely hope you receive this letter to read. For I am most thankful you have such a wonderful person as your Aunt Mimi.

I visited her just recently (she was so pleased to see me). On the journey I had a slight accident. On remarking about it to Mimi, she very promptly saw to my need, for which I was very grateful. She was most attentive.

I spent a most enjoyable afternoon with her, laughing and talking about you and your family, also your work, among other things, over a cup of tea.

I seemed so at ease with her, as I felt I had known her all my life. So I was quite sorry when the time came for me to leave, but said she looked forward to seeing me again.

Oh! John, Mimi has a heart of gold, and you are so lucky to have such a lovely person as your Aunt. I only wish I had just such a person.

A faithful Lennonite,
Eileen L. Read
15 Fieldmore Road,
Hurdway,
Gosport, Hants.

Dear Johnny,

This is a letter of appreciation for all the articles and pictures of Mike McGear (Paul's brother) that you have printed in *The Beatles Monthly Book*. As I am a very keen Scaffold fan I really appreciate this and hope you will continue to print more articles on them.

Down here in Australia news of the Scaffold is rather rare and I am finding that *The Beatles Monthly Book* is one of my constant means of finding out how they are going. This is also becoming very convenient because by buying one book I can collect pictures and read about two great groups.

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely,
Desma Simpson,
184 Union Road,
Surrey Hills,
Victoria 3127,
Australia.

Dear Johnny Dean,

As a Beatle fan "from the beginning" I would like to illustrate how my changes in taste in music have run parallel with the progression of the brilliant four.

At first, I was content with a hummable, tuneful song—not necessarily with a thought-provoking lyric—which was well played. The Beatles provided such material in songs like "She Loves You" and "I Want To Hold Your Hand".

Later, a little more demanding in taste, I sought for records with that little bit extra; added backing, a spark of originality. In "Eleanor Rigby" and "Norwegian Wood" the Beatles again obliged.

Nowadays, it takes something really out of the ordinary to please me, but, yet again, the Beatles produce this sort of record all the time—from the enigmatic "Strawberry Fields" to the expressive nonsense of "I Am The Walrus".

Yours sincerely,
Stephen Millward
(Club Member 50516),
44 Baynam Drive,
Worcester.







by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

THINGS were really happening in the pop music scene in August 66—because this was when it became obvious that the Government were going to do all they possibly could to sink the pirate radio stations. The Beatles were among many, many thousands who were upset, indeed outraged, at the plans.

John Lennon talked at length about how bad it was for a government to go against the wishes of more than half the population. The fear was, he explained, that all pop power would go to the BBC—and he regarded that as being very dangerous indeed. And all the Beatles felt that it would only help to stifle the record industry and make it more and more difficult for new artists to get a fair hearing.

HEARTBREAKING

It was Paul who said: "We know how hard it was for us to get any sort of break when we were first starting. It'll be heartbreaking if the pirate ships go down. . ." But down they did go, eventually. Even with George Harrison adding his view that: "If these stations go, then we're getting near to being a Police State. If the BBC was doing the job right in the first place, then obviously the pirates wouldn't have got half the support they do have . . ."

Still, this same month of August two years ago produced "Yellow Submarine". Some critics felt it was all a bit infantile, but again the Beatles proved, as it steamed to number one, that they knew better than anyone else what the fans wanted. By the start of that football season, the song had been adapted by hairy soccer addicts to suit the particular colours of their own team. . . "We all live in an orange submarine", for instance.

It was also the month that John Lennon

announced that he was going to make his debut as an actor—without the rest of the Beatles, that is. The film, of course, was "How I Won The War", and the filming was due to take a couple of months to complete. No music in the film, just the story of a platoon of eight soldiers, commanded by Michael Crawford—and with John playing Private Gripweed, a most off-beat character indeed. An hilarious comedy, based on a best-selling novel, and directed by Dick Lester who had worked with the Beatles (and learned to respect John's acting talents) in "Help" and "Hard Day's Night". Said Dick: "I am firmly convinced that John has great potential as a straight actor".

And to put down any further rumours that this might mean the start of the Beatles' break-up, Mr. Lester added: "I am not trying to lure him away from the recording studios. After all, it would be crazy if I did. I'd make myself the most hated man in Britain!"

THIRD TOUR

During the second week of August two years ago, the boys were leaving for America for their third tour there. Only this was a tour with a difference. For there were serious doubts for the safety of the boys. Remember why this was? It all resulted from some out-of-context quotes taken from a London evening newspaper in which John Lennon apparently said he felt the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ.

◀ *A very early photo of the Beatles taken in the summer of 1963.*

Now this was a very strange situation. This article had been printed here ages before it was picked up by American papers. In fact, John had been talking at length about the status of the Beatles in modern society and he was comparing their popularity with that of organised religion. But take a quick quote out of context and you can stir up enormous trouble. That's what had happened and it triggered off a ridiculous reaction.

In some States, parties were organised to burn copies of Beatle records. A few radio stations said they were banning Beatle discs. Demonstrations were threatened in key cities like New York. America was jumpy and troubled and the obvious target for all this was the Beatle tour. The boys joked about it, but behind the scenes there were fears that some extremist group COULD cause physical injury.

Well, for a start, "Yellow Submarine" was an instant massive-seller in the States. There was a bit of a hou-ha about the boys actually leaving London because of a TWA strike, so their reservations were switched to Pan-Am and they actually got away a bit earlier than expected. And at the same time Radio England, one of the doomed pirate stations, played a Beatle record every 10 minutes for two whole days. This was done as a gesture to the boys by Ron O'Quinn, station controller, who actually stayed with the boys on every section of their American visit.

BRILLIANT

There WERE a few outbursts against the Beatles when they arrived. But John Lennon was in brilliant form at a Press conference at which he explained how his words had been blown up out of all importance—and how concerned he was that there had been misunderstandings. He was in top form, at once humorous and also deeply sincere, and at all points along the route of their tour out came the "We Love You, Beatles" banners.

Otherwise it was touring-as-usual, Beatle-wise. At Cleveland, Ohio, there was nearly complete chaos with thousands of fans breaking down barriers to get near the boys. John, Paul, George and Ringo were escorted to the safety of a caravan for half an hour before returning to finish off the

show. One disc-jockey from the so-called Bible Belt of the deep South said publicly that he had intended banning all Beatle discs but was so impressed by John Lennon's explanation that he would now go on playing them.

Another possible explanation of this change of face could be that the handful of stations who DID carry out the threat of banning Beatle records showed an alarming slump in listening figures!

SELL-OUT

At the Shea Stadium there was a virtual sell-out for the boys' second appearance in the 56,000-seater. As before, the boys arrived by helicopter, then armoured car, then through a dug-out passage that led straight to the centre of the baseball diamond. Only this time they wore cream silk suits instead of black outfits. The noise as ever was deafening but what impressed the boys was the way the massive audience listened respectfully to the quieter numbers, like Paul's "Yesterday". Said Paul: "Screams are fine, but it's satisfying to know that you can get an audience to actually listen to what you're doing".

This one show earned the boys about 125,000 dollars, which is a stack of loot. With them on the production were the Ronettes, Bobby Hebb, the Remains and the Cyrkle. Someone always has to try and knock, of course, and this time it was because the Beatles did only 25 minutes. But this, again, could hardly be their fault. The contract stipulated the time on stage and in any case this was how much they'd done on other parts of the tour.

Amazing patience was shown by the American fans. Like in Cincinnati where it was an open-air show and the rain simply belted down. For four hours the fans stood there, waiting with bated breath for the arrival of the fantastic foursome. Then it was found that the wet had made the equipment dangerous for use so the show was put off until lunch-time the following day. Still no matter—the fans cheerfully turned up then and gave the boys a thunderous reception.

They came back to London on the last day of August 1966. And September started with the usual, now-expected bang. . .



ABOVE: Paul signs autographs for the crowd in Kensington Gardens.

BELOW: Film director Paul works out the next shot for Grapefruit.



Ringo and George in California

UP North Paul was playing Best Man at the wedding of his brother, Mike. In London on that same Friday morning, June 7, I was making a last-moment dash to the EMI studios to pick up George's Jumbo guitar, the acoustic one, which he suddenly decided he'd like to take with him to America. But this wasn't the only late addition to the boys' luggage. Delivered direct to Heathrow Airport at take-off time was a big parcel of new suits from Apple Tailoring—a yellow suit with matching trilby for George and a darker one for Ringo.

We flew non-stop to Los Angeles where the aircraft had to re-fuel. Instead of going on to San Francisco on the scheduled service flight we switched to a privately chartered Lear Jet, a tiny but very potent little 'plane just big enough to take our party of five—George and Pattie, Ringo and Maureen plus yours truly. This meant we could fly direct to Monterey which was convenient because George's bit of filming with Ravi Shankar was to be done on location in Big Sur Country, a range of mountains and a small village just outside Monterey on the Californian coast between Los Angeles and San Francisco.

At Monterey our good American friend Nat Weiss met us and we went to the Del Monte Lodge, a big country-club style place with bungalows to live in and a full-sized golf course. Bing Crosby was already in residence. Lovely spot, right on the coast with a fine view out across the Pacific.

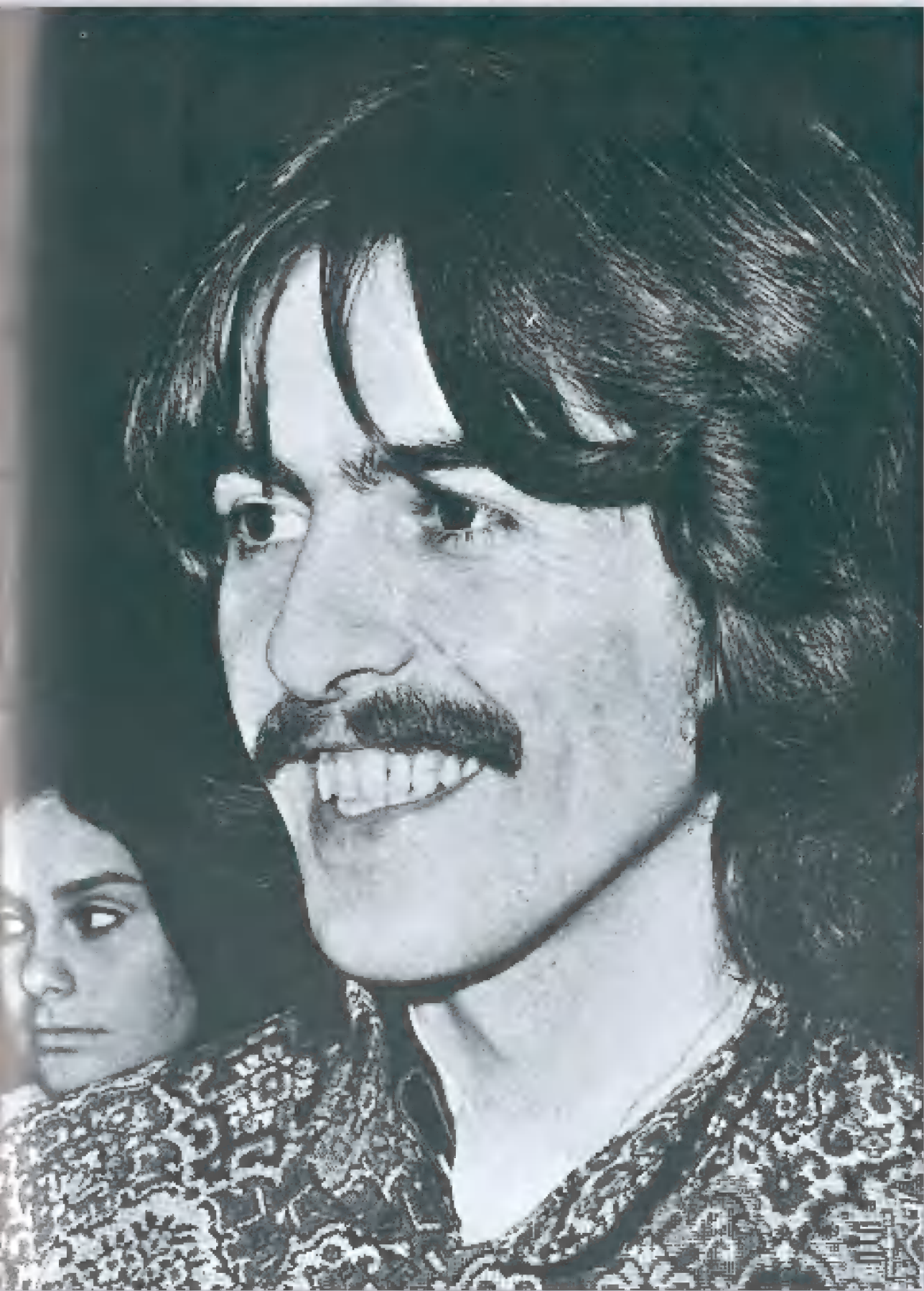
On Saturday we spent the day settling in. I went into the town of Carmel, a quaint English-style place, to look around. In the afternoon all five of us trooped over to renew our acquaintance with Joan Baez, the folk singer, and to meet her husband at their new home in the hills.

On Sunday George had a long practise session on his sitar in preparation for the filming with Ravi. The rest of us walked across to the shore and took in the beauty of the area. Del Monte Lodge is situated on a private road where sightseers pay a toll to motor along the 17-mile Drive, a wonderful stretch of twisting road running through the Monterey pine forests and some really breathtaking scenery.

GOLFING BEATLES

Then George suggested a round of golf. Golf on a nice day like this? Hit a ball about for hours on end? No chance, I thought! To my amazement (and his, I think!) George talked us all into golf. And it was fantastic! They had these three-wheel electric carts to drive around the course. So we were bombing up and down the hills having great fun. And the actual golf? Pattie and Maureen were doing 20-yard hops, but Ringo really got it together and hit several good shots. Mind you, we only played a few holes! If any sightseers had spotted George they'd have never connected him with the Beatle of the same name. Picture him standing there, enormous sunglasses beneath an orange trilby with bright orange suit to match, golf club clutched in his fist seated in the middle of a green in this crazy little go-go cart!

On Monday we drove down to meet Ravi Shankar, 45-minutes down the coast, at the filming location. Ravi was just like George had described to me although I had not seen him until that day. He was great, a lovely warm person. On that first day they had about 30 people, kids and all, sitting round on the grass playing all sorts of instruments from bongoes to cow bells. Local hippy people—not actors. Nice



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atmosphere.

Ravi taught George a new raga, one he'd never heard before. They just sat there with their sitars, very informally and without any rehearsal or planned dialogue. While this went on—for about half-an-hour—the cameras rolled.

BASICALLY THIS WAS GEORGE'S BRIEF GUEST CONTRIBUTION TO RAVI'S FILM. IT HASN'T GOT A TITLE AS YET BUT IT'S KNOWN BY THE WORKING TITLE OF "EAST MEETS WEST". IT'S RAVI'S LIFE, STARTING AT THE VILLAGE WHERE HE WAS BORN, BRINGING IN HIS EARLY SPIRITUAL GURUS (TEACHERS) AND FOLLOWING HIS CAREER WITH A LOT OF THE IMPORTANT PEOPLE HE'S COME INTO CONTACT WITH DURING THE YEARS. WHEN IT'S FINISHED IT WILL BE A FULL-LENGTH COLOUR FEATURE FILM FOR SHOWING IN CINEMAS, BUT GEORGE WILL ONLY BE SEEN FOR A FEW MINUTES — IN THE SCENE I'VE JUST BEEN DESCRIBING.

In the afternoon we drove back to Del Monte Lodge, George and I taking turns to steer the luxurious Lincoln Continental we'd rented through some of California's most splendid scenery. We stopped now and again and climbed down the cliffs to sit in the sun for half-an-hour or so. And how had Ringo, Pattie and Maureen spent the day? We found them back on the golf course again!

LOCATION

Next day they joined us to return to the film location. And an extra bit of filming was done with George—a scene where he's seen walking along the edge of the cliffs with Ravi.

On Wednesday we went South to Los Angeles where we were using Van Heflin's house to stay in. Perfect spot, secluded, tucked away up in the hills of Brentwood close to the famous Bel Air neighbourhood.

First social call was to Peter Tork's house. When we arrived Peter was wearing a string of beads and very little else, since it was far too hot to be anywhere but a swimming pool that day. Dave

Crosby (Byrd) was there, too, and we had a good get-together.

Of course the last time I'd been to L.A. was on tour a couple of years ago. By comparison the whole place seemed a bit dead this trip. In 1966 there was so much excitement. I suppose I didn't realise it at the time but the fellows took that excitement with them. By two in the morning Sunset Strip was quiet and almost deserted. Not how I remember it in '66—although, as you'll see when you read Tony Bramwell's write-up about his visit there with Paul, good things still happen if you know where to find 'em!

PETERS—ASHER & TORK

I suppose the highlight of L.A. this time for us was the session we had at Peter Tork's place. Peter Asher joined us there—he played bass, Peter Tork was on piano, George and Dave Crosby on guitars and Ringo drumming.

On Sunday morning quite early, we packed all our bags ready for the return flight to London and made our way to Los Angeles International Airport. Ten minutes before take-off—Big Bring Down! For the third time running (as far as we were concerned) Pan Am were cancelling the showing of a film on the flight. All very well, perhaps, if we'd known earlier, but a bit annoying when we weren't told until the last minute.

So we had a hasty meeting and decided unanimously to switch flights, fly to New York by TWA and have a day or two there before continuing to London. At that late stage all the luggage was already on the Pan Am plane and I had to go out to the aircraft to identify our bags so that they could get them off again!

Between L.A. and New York on TWA we saw "The Scalp Hunters" with Burt Lancaster. Great.

In New York we stayed at a small but very nice place, The Drake Hotel. Of course, Maureen was particularly delighted at our change of plans. This was her first sightseeing visit to America and now she was going to see New York as well as California!

On the Sunday night I took Maureen and Ringo to a club where Jimi Hendrix and a

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BEATLE NEWS

"YELLOW SUBMARINE" DISCOTHEQUE OPENS

At the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Bayswater, West London, the Rank Organisation opened a special Yellow Submarine discotheque room to coincide with the London World Premiere of the Beatles' cartoon film. Movie and pop celebrities were amongst the 200 V.I.P. guests who attended the discotheque's midnight launching party, thrown immediately after the premiere on Wednesday, July 17.

RINGO'S GO-KART

Birthday gift from Maureen to Ringo on July 7 (his 28th) was a stylish-looking Go-Kart. Ringo loaded it into the boot of his big white Mercedes and drove from his Weybridge home to the local Go-Kart Club's circuit. Result? Ringo is now a fully qualified Class I Go-Kart driver with strong ambitions to extend his experience with what promises to become his fave rave new hobby for 1968. Ringo's comment: "Mo couldn't have chosen a more welcome gift. I'm really knocked out with the whole idea.

"MAGIC ALEX" GETS MARRIED

26-year-old Greek electronics wizard Alexis Mardas—known to his friends by the nickname The Beatles gave him, "Magic Alex", walked around the Apple Corps offices one afternoon declaring his intention to get married the following day. But nobody really took him seriously until 11.30 a.m. the next morning, Thursday July 11, when Magic Alex said he was off to the church and everyone had just 30 minutes to join him in time for the noon ceremony at the Greek Orthodox Church, Bayswater, West London!

FOR SALE: BEATLE MANSION

At St. George's Hill, Weybridge, Surrey, a famous home went up for sale in July—with the estate agents sworn to secrecy and promising not to reveal the owner's name to potential purchasers!

The home, a giant Tudor-style place set in its own spacious grounds, has belonged to John for the past four years. He spent something like £30-£40,000 on alterations landscape gardening and the installation of a swimming pool. This means that whoever buys the house might well expect to pay as much as £60,000, although John said not so long ago that he wouldn't expect to get much more than half his money back if he ever sold up.

WE'RE GOOD GUESSERS BUT . . .

We have received several letters from readers ordering back issues but we can't send them what they want because they've forgotten to put their address on their letters. Could the following readers please write and tell us where to send their back copies: Sandy Hughes, Mike Wilson, Mary Defore, Anne Marie Back, Beppe Beneti.

Also, will the Beatle person who sent us 17/6d. in a letter posted in South Kensington on July 13th please send us their name and address.

FIRST CROP

Apart from the Beatles new single which is of course, being released on the new Apple label, here are the other discs which make up the first crop from Apple, already for picking from your local record tree on August 16th: The Black Dyke Mills Band playing the theme which Paul has written for the new TV series "Thingummybob" which will be backed by "Yellow Submarine": Jackie Lomax with a George Harrison song and production "Sour Milk Sea": Mary Hopkin, a Paul McCartney production "Those Were The Days".

Lost and Found: Beatle Dog

Edgar, the tiny Yorkshire terrier puppy which Paul bought for Jane at the beginning of June, went missing a fortnight ago from Paul's house in Cavendish-avenue, St. John's Wood.

The pup—who much prefers to be called Eddy rather than the formal Edgar!—was returned by two helpful Beatle People after Paul had put out a little S.O.S. message through the St. John's Wood Beatle fan grapevine. Says Paul: "All the girls went hunting round the area, calling at local police stations until they located the lost Eddy".

John Lennon couldn't make the Press showing of "Yellow Submarine", so Paul, Ringo and George made up the quartet with a life-like cardboard "Yellow Submarine" cartoon.



*ABOVE: John cuts string to release one of his white balloons during the John Fraser Gallery "happening".
BELOW: This must be a gimmick shot for a certain Beatles' company which escapes my memory for the moment.*





Above: Two very thoughtful-looking Beatles hard at work on their new single release.

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flute player were playing. To our surprise we found Jimi was staying at the Drake too!

We always seem to meet friends from England abroad. This was no exception because no sooner had we got together with Jimi but Eric Clapton (Cream) turned up and we all went back to the Drake together.

LOADS OF TOYS

Monday was our last day. I took Maureen to a big toy store and we both bought loads of stuff there for our respective kids. And on the Tuesday we flew home to London, Eric Clapton changing flights so that he could join us.

Well, that's all the space I have if we're going to leave room for Tony Bramwell to

tell you all about HIS trip to California with Paul.

I've got a diary full of recording information for you but it will have to hold until next month's issue. Oh yes—you read about Ringo's first composition being recorded last month with the working title of "Some Kind Of Friendly". Well, that number has since become "Don't Pass Me By". And Paul's contributed a sort of calypso composition which is still untitled.

At some of the more recent sessions George has been using another new guitar—one he got in New York at a big music store, Manny's. A lovely big, fat Gibson Jumbo, Country and Western style. But that is part of next month's story, so I'll sign off here.

MAL EVANS.

The

Beatles

No. 61

AUG.
1968

BOOK

